

# Mother Goose Asks "Why?"

This newsletter is created and distributed by the Office of Library and Information Services in partnership with Rhode Island READS

## Introduction

As Halloween approaches here are a few things you can do with your children while out trick-or-treating.

Find as many different shapes you can find by looking at all the pumpkins. How many lollipops did you collect on one street? How many children have on a ghost costume? How many parents are carrying flashlights.

Here are a few tips for you while taking your child out on Halloween:

- Make sure young children go out for Halloween with an adult.
- Never trick-or-treat alone-have at least two buddies go with you.
- Plan your entire route.
- Make sure that your child is wearing a flame retardant costume.
- Wait until you get home and check all your child's candy before they eat it.
- Never let your child enter a house-accept candy at the doorway.
- Don't let children play near lit jack-o-lanterns.
- Visit only houses that have lights on.
- Walk, don't run.
- Walk on sidewalks and drive-ways.
- Cross streets at corners or in a crosswalk.
- Carry a flashlight.

## Calendar of Events

The Fourth Annual Storytelling Concert will be held Nov 8-10, 2002

November 8, Spooky Stories at Little Compton Community Center-\$5.00 donation.

November 9, Sullivan School Family Center in Newport, RI-Free Event  
For more information call 847-5148

## Parents Talk

Here are 10 ways Kids Connect @ The Library:  
From the American Library Association:

1. **Answers...** How fast can a dog run? What is the moon made of? What happened to the dinosaurs? No question need to go without an answer. One parent reports keeping a list and taking it with her to the library to help her child find the answers.

2. **Books...** More books than any family can afford. Books to help stretch a child's mind and imagination. Ask your librarian for titles the whole family will enjoy.

3. **Computers...** Kids who aren't logged-on and literate will be lost in the 21st century. More and more libraries provide computers and classes to help kids master computer skills.

4. **Fun...** Check out your library's free programs for children. Today's libraries offer a wide range of programming from movies and puppets to clowns and magicians to sleepovers.

5. **Homework Help...** A growing number of libraries across the country offer homework centers specially staffed and equipped with computers and other reference materials to assist children.

6. **Librarians...** Librarian's are experts at answering questions and helping kids connect with books to appeal to their special interests. Be sure to introduce your child to the librarian and encourage them to ask for assistance.

7. **Magazines...** Most libraries offer a selection of popular children's magazines with stories, games and other fun activities.

8. **Preschool learning...** Getting kids ready to learn starts at birth. Almost every library offers preschool story hours and other programs to introduce children to the fun of reading and stimulate mental development

9. **Tapes...** Borrow books, stories and songs to play in the car, while brushing teeth, before nap or bedtime.

10. **Videos...** Check them out. Virtually every library offers videos on loan at no or nominal fees.

*October 2002*

*Volume 3, Issue 1*

*Inside This Issue:*

*Introduction*

*Calendar*

*Parents Forum*

*Featured Books*

*Amazing Library*

*Shannon Rivers  
AmeriCorps\*Vista  
Editor*



## Featured Books

### **BackYard Detective Critters Up Close** by Nic Bishop

This is a book that connects with the *Mother Goose Asks "Why?"* program. This book is just like one of the activities in the program, looking through the magnifying glasses at the compost, seeing what different insects live in compost and what insects live in vegetables, flowers, and soil. Many insects change through different life stages as they grow from young to adult. If you want to know how to find or attract yard insects and animals "Be a Backyard Detective." The picture index located at the back of this book will help you identify all the insects and animals and locate them in this book.

### **I Get Wet** by Vicki Cobb

This book is fun-filled with different water activities. This book is designed for your child to make discoveries about water, and asks a series of questions that can be answered by doing the activities. This book will reinforce what the child has found out through experience.



## Amazing Library

South Providence Branch Library  
441 Prairie Avenue, Providence



This is one library that has made a big impact on my life. When I was a child I was attending this library and Ms. Harris was the librarian there and is still going like the Energizer Bunny. We would go to the library for movie night, also for Girl Scouts, or just to hang out and read books. The library was like my second home. My parents always knew where to find me. It's funny how I grew up in that library and now that I have children they are growing up in that library to. I am very happy that Ms. Harris has been nominated for the Jefferson Award. She deserves this award for putting in all of her time and effort into the library and also the children. I always remember her saying to us when we were young no running, no hitting, and no yelling in her library and I am sure she is still saying that to the children that go there now. I visited her library awhile ago and watched a magic show and it brought tears to my eyes to see that this place still exists and to see Ms. Harris again.

It is a great pleasure to see that the library is getting renovations. It is going to be strange seeing the library with a different look but as long as Ms. Harris is there I am sure it will still be the same (a second home). I am sure that Ms. Harris is very proud of herself and the library, also all the people that have been attending the library, that have been keeping her going for years and hopefully many more years to come.

*The RI Mother Goose Programs were developed by the Vermont Center for the Book in conjunction with the Montshire Museum of Science and the Vermont Department of Libraries.*

*Substantial funding is provided by a grant from the National Science Foundation, with local support from the Rhode Island Office of Library and Information Services, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Providence Children's Museum, the Providence Public Library, the Newport Public Library, the Cranston Public Library, and CHILDSPAN. Presented in partnership with Rhode Island READS, a project of the Public Education Fund, and the Corporation for National and Community Service.*